As regards the abolition of the post of Assistant Superintendents and the increase of District Superintendents to seven, your suggetion will be noted.

In special cases, higher officers like the District Superintendents or the Assistant Superintendents will attend to the investigation of important cases and any slackness or other defect found will receive serious notice.

As regards the want of sufficient allotments under the head of batta for witnesses, you have given two instances, *i. e.* those relating to the Magistrates courts of Alwaye and Perumpavur. The matter will be looked into.

About the question as to who should prosecute, I find that there is a proposal to eliminate the Prosecuting Inspector and to entrust that work to some other agency, such as Sirkar Vakils. The question is being examined by the Head Sirkar Vakil.

As regards the relationship between the Police and the Magistracy, they are generally of a cordial nature and Mr. Pitt assures the Government that no lack of respect to a Magistrate is tolerated in the Department.

As regards the hardship which you say is caused by Sections 69 and 70 of the Police Regulation, your remarks are noted.

39. Desirability of laying down educational qualifications for document and petition writers in Public Offices and of issuing licenses to them.

Mr. P. K. Raman (Member, Nominated) said that nearly 50 years had elapsed since the Registration Department was organised and that the number of documents that were registered was daily on the increase. But nothing had been done till now to regulate the work of document-writers. They were absolutely ignorant of the rules or procedure relating to the Stamp Regulation, the Registration Regulation and the Rules passed thereunder, and the Transfer of Property Act. The vagaries committed by them were many and they were left unchecked. The Member urged the necessity of prescribing an examination qualification for document writers. The subjects for that examination should include the Registration Regulation, the Stamp Regulation, and the Transfer of Property Act, and the test should be open to those who had passed the English School Leaving Certificate Examination. The successful candidates should be granted license to write documents and such license should be renewed once in two or three years. A license fee should be introduced and there should also be a supervising agency.

President's reply.—There was an interpellation in the Legislative Council on this subject. The Director of Registration was of opinion that the matter required legislation. The Head Sirkar Vakil was, however, of the view that effectual legislation on the subject was not possible, that each man should have the liberty of choosing his own document-writer, and that Government should not unduly interfere with individual liberty of action in this respect. Government have accepted the view of the Head Sirkar Vakil.

IV. Production and Distribution,—Agriculture, Industries, Co-operation and Trade.

40. Suggestions for the improvement of Agriculture and Irrigation in Nanjinad.

Mr. Kanakku Matevan Pillai Perumal Pillai (Member, Agastisvaram taluk) first requested that small model agricultural farms be opened in different places and that agriculture be made a compulsory subject of study in schools in important villages in Nanjinad.

The Member next said that, as a result of dry lands on which green manure trees had been planted being converted into wet lands and of the consequent dearth of green manure in Nanjanad there was a fall in the yield of crops. To remove that defect, the Member suggested that agriculturists should be permitted to plant green manure trees on *poramboke* lands without being subjected to prohibitory assessment and heavy fines for encroachments on *porambokes*.

The next point urged by the Member was that the ryots of the Agastisvaram taluk should be granted free passes to enable them to take materials from forests for agricultural implements.

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